IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA NORTHERN DIVISION No. 2:18-CV-39-D

| KATHERINE MAE ARMSTEAD, |) |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Plaintiff, |) |
| v. | ORDER |
| ANDREW M. SAUL, |) |
| Commissioner of Social Security, |) |
| |) |
| Defendant. |) |

On August 12 2019, Magistrate Judge Gates issued a Memorandum and Recommendation ("M&R") [D.E. 31] and recommended that the court grant plaintiff's motion for judgment on the pleadings [D.E. 17], deny defendant's motion for judgment on the pleadings [D.E. 20], and remand the action to the Commissioner. Neither party objected to the M&R. Cf. [D.E. 32].

"The Federal Magistrates Act requires a district court to make a de novo determination of those portions of the magistrate judge's report or specified proposed findings or recommendations to which objection is made." <u>Diamond v. Colonial Life & Accident Ins. Co.</u>, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005) (emphasis, alteration, and quotation omitted); <u>see</u> 28 U.S.C. § 636(b). Absent a timely objection, "a district court need not conduct a de novo review, but instead must only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to accept the recommendation." <u>Diamond</u>, 416 F.3d at 315 (quotation omitted).

¹ Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 25(d), the court substitutes Andrew M. Saul for Nancy A. Berryhill as Commissioner of Social Security. <u>See</u> Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d).

The court has reviewed the M&R, the record, and the briefs. The court is satisfied that there is no clear error on the face of the record. Accordingly, the court adopts the conclusions in the M&R [D.E. 31].

In sum, the court GRANTS plaintiff's motion for judgment on the pleadings [D.E. 17], DENIES defendant's motion for judgment on the pleadings [D.E. 20], and REMANDS the action to the Commissioner under sentence six of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

SO ORDERED. This <u>30</u> day of August 2019.

JAMES C. DEVER III

United States District Judge